

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1361

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

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UNCLAS BELFAST 254

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, UK, EI

SUBJECT: YOUNG CONSERVATIVES CALL FOR DIALOGUE ON NORTHERN IRELAND

1. LOCAL PRESS REPORTED JULY 19 THAT, FOLLOWING FACT-FINDING MISSION TO NORTHERN IRELAND, MICHAEL YOUNG, NATIONAL CHAIRMAN OF YOUNG CONSERVATIVES CALLED FOR INFORMAL DIALOGUE ON SITUATION IN NORTHERN IRELAND. SOME SUBJECTS FOR CONSIDERATION IN DIALOGUE WOULD BE (A) EXPLORATION OF FORMATION NEW UNIONIST COALITION IN PROVINCE INCLUDING FAULKNER UNIONIST PARTY BUT EXCLUDING PAISLEY DEMOCRATIC UNIONISTS, (B) REVIVAL RIGHT OF UNIONIST REPRESENTATION IN NATIONAL UNION OF CONSERVATIVE PARTY, (C) INCLUSION OF NORTHERN IRELAND IN DEVOLUTION DEBATE, (D) ADDITIONAL INVESTMENT INCENTIVES FOR INDUSTRY, (E) REVIEW OF A RANGE OF RADICAL ECONOMIC MEASURES TO BE FINANCED BY A REDUCTION IN TROOP STRENGTH.

2. THERE VERY LITTLE CURRENT DISCUSSION OF OR SEEMING INTEREST IN NORTHERN IRELAND IN CLOSER ASSOCIATION WITH EITHER MAJOR BRITISH POLITICAL PARTY. UNIONISTS HAVE REFUSED TO TAKE CONSERVATIVE PARTY WHIP AT WESTMINSTER SINCE 1974. IN RECENT UNCLASSIFIED

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MONTHS SOME LOYALIST MEMBERS PARLIAMENT HAVE EXPRESSED MORE

INTEREST IN REACHING UNDERSTANDING ("DOING A DEAL") WITH LABOUR
THAN WITH TORIES.
SPICER

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Message Attributes

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